

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US01/80184

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A22 C 25/00, 25/20; A23L 1/325

US CL : 426/92,138,140,274,282,643,513

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 426/92,138,140,274,282,643,513

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | US 4,670,276 A (NAKAJIMA) 02 JUNE 1987 (02.06.87), see entire document. | 1-23 |
| Y | US 4,530,847 A (NATORI) 23 JULY 1985 (23.07.85), see entire document. | 1-23 |
| Y | US 4,824,687 A (YASUNO) 25 APRIL 1989 (25.04.89), see entire document. | 1-23 |
| Y | US 4,832,970 A (MALLY ET AL) 23 MAY 1989 (23.05.89), see entire document. | 1-23 |
| Y | US 1,596,652 A (GIOVANNETTI) 17 AUGUST 1926 (17.08.26), see entire document. | 15-19 |
| Y | US 4,574,088 A (BOWDEN) 04 MARCH 1986 (04.03.86), see entire document. | 15-19 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

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|---|--|
| Special categories of cited documents: | |
| *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| *B* earlier document published on or after the international filing date | *X* document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | *Y* document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | |
| *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | *Z* document member of the same patent family |

Date of the actual completion of the international search
13 DECEMBER 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report
08 FEB 2002

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US01/50184

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | US 5,622,742 A (CAROLLO) 22 APRIL 1997 (22.04.97), see entire document. | 15-19 |
| Y | US 3,656,968 A (ALLEN) 18 APRIL 1972 (18.04.72), see entire document. | 15-19 |
| A | US 5,736,180 A (PEIFFER ET AL) 07 APRIL 1998 (07.04.98), see entire document. | 1-23 |
| A | US 4,382,768 A (LIFSHTITZ ET AL) 10 MAY 1983 (10.05.83), see entire document. | 1-23 |
| A | US 3,026,822 A (GATTI) 27 MARCH 1962 (27.03.62), see entire document. | 1-23 |